

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~NSC Briefing
25 September, 1956~~SECRET NOFORN~~

ALGERIA

I Mollet has yet to announce his choice of the several plans under study in Paris for a new French policy toward Algeria. All proposed policies involve a measure of limited autonomy for Algeria with "indissoluble" ties with France.

II The government reportedly intends to impose its plan without negotiating with the Algerians because of the alleged impossibility of locating representative Algerian leaders. A The plan calls for France to retain control of foreign affairs, justice, education, and security while the autonomous powers conferred on the Algerian Assembly would be chiefly financial, with Paris continuing to control subsidies.

B One Chamber of a bicameral Algerian Assembly would be elected by universal suffrage of a unified electorate, and C Algeria would continue to send representatives to the French parliamentary assemblies.

III The Ministry of Interior officials believe this plan represents a substantial advance toward internal autonomy. A The proposed policy indicates, however, that the government does not intend to keep its earlier promises to hold free elections in Algeria as a prelude to negotiations and to refrain from unilateral promulgation a new Algerian statute.

IV Contact is being maintained with Algerian nationalists, however, possibly in the hope of obtaining some negotiating basis. E On the other hand, Paris has requested American assistance in blocking any attempt the African-Asian bloc may make to inscribe the Algerian 17

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~ NOFORNDOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S 61990
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 1-4-80 REVIEWER: 372044

~~SECRET NOFORN~~

- 2 -

question on the agenda of the 11th UN General Assembly.

□ Growing assembly impatience over the Algerian stalemate has been whetted by the Suez crisis, and some of Mollet's fellow Socialists are disgruntled at the slow pace of reforms in Algeria. ^AGeneral Juin's recent public statement in favor of a federated status for Algeria may help get a fairly liberal proposal through the assembly.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

~~NOFORN~~